



# Australian Bureau of Statistics

## **1351.0.55.009 - Research Paper: Comparison of Methods for Measuring the Age of Withdrawal from the Labour Force, Nov 2005**

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## Summary

### About this Release

#### ABOUT THIS RELEASE

Over one-third of the Australian population is currently aged 45-84 years and this proportion is expected to rise over time. This has created concern about the age at which people are withdrawing from the labour force and starting their retirement. Despite the importance of this issue, there is a lack of consensus in the literature about which method should be used to measure the age of withdrawal from the labour force. This paper explores the use of three summary methods for calculating the age of withdrawal from the labour force. Two of these methods estimate the 'expected' age of withdrawal, while the third method estimates the 'average' age of withdrawal. Each method has its own advantages and disadvantages which need to be considered in the context of the specific research question and available data sources.

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